

(a) whether it is a fact that G.C.S. posts are filled on inadequate circulation; arbitrary relaxation of cooling off period, part-time experience, qualification etc;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken so that experienced and qualified officer who never had a chance to be on deputation are selected and the system ensures transparency and equality of opportunity guaranteed under Article 16 of Constitution; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the G.C.S. officers are put to disadvantageous position due to a decade's delay in regular promotion as Under-Secretary and they deserve consideration for JAG post in G.C.S. based on their service as Section Officer for more than 13 years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) GCS posts are filled on regular basis by circulating the vacancies in the Employment News. The candidates are selected in accordance with the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Regular promotions to the grade of Under Secretary of CSS have not been made after 1986 Panel because of litigation over the dispute relating to inter-seniority of Direct Recruit and Promotee Section Officers.

As the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules have to be followed, all eligible persons fulfilling the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules, are given due consideration for JAG posts in GCS. In case of CSS officers also, the conditions prescribed in the Recruitment Rules are being followed.

[English]

Completion of on-going Railway Projects

2176. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate funds are being provided by the Government for faster completion of the on-going projects of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for delay to complete these projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is attached.

(c) Constraints of resources.

Statement

S.No.	Name of Projects	Funds provided in 96-97	Funds provided in 97-98	Remarks/Reasons for delay
New Lines:				
1.	Lakshmikantapur-Namkhana	4.75	5.00	Land acquisition
2.	Mandar Hill-Rampurhat via Dumka	1.00	5.00	—
Doubling				
3.	Sahibganj-new Farakka-Malda Town	1.00	1.00	Encroachment and flood damage
4.	Sonenagar-Mughalsarai-Third line	12.00	28.00	Limited availability of traffic/power blocks/speed restrictions/non interlocked working due to over saturated section.
5.	Khana-Sainthia (Phase-I)	1.43	4.00	Court case by contractor in Calcutta High Court.
6.	Jhaptardal-Guskara (Phase-II)	1.00	4.00	Failure of Consecutive Contractors
7.	Chandanpur-Gurup-Third line	1.00	1.00	—
8.	Guskara-Bolpur (Phase-III)	1.73	4.50	—

Free Lance Artists

2177. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Free Lance Artists are also preparing programmes for Delhi Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;